

Section: Division of Nursing
Approval: _____

PROCEDURE

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HACKETTSTOWN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

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OR
(Scope)

TITLE: FLOAT NURSE ROLE IN THE OR

PURPOSE: The RN Float Nurse is an integral part of the OR team. He/she assists the unit coordinator in directing staff activities and patient care within the operating room.

SUPPORTIVE DATA: The RN Float Nurse is specially trained to practice nursing during the perioperative period. He/she has a vast knowledge of perioperative nursing. His/her practice is designed to meet the patient's and staff's needs through the nursing process, ensuring continuity of care during the surgical experience.

EQUIPMENT LIST: Check the day's assignment. Be prepared in anatomy, surgeon's preferences and sequence of procedures. Collaborate with Circulator and Scrub personnel for special equipment and anticipated needs for additional personnel

CONTENT:

PROCEDURE STEPS:

KEY POINTS:

Morning Duties

1. Help to pick any added cases as needed.
2. Check with Circulator and Scrub personnel in each room to see if they are missing any supplies or equipment.
3. Plan breaks and lunches relief for the day.

- Obtain pick slips from unit secretary.
Obtain supplies or equipment needed.
Collaborate with unit coordinator.

Preoperative Duties

1. Help open cases.
2. Check patients in and give report to their Circulator.

Report operative site, any allergies, any pertinent medical history and anything missing on the chart (i.e. history and physical, lab work, consent, site checklist).

Intraoperative Duties

1. Coordinate schedule and running of rooms with the Unit Coordinator.
2. Relieve the circulator for their break/lunch.
3. Help to pick cases for the next day as needed.
4. Put away any cancelled cases and extraneous supplies

Relief should be given once the case is underway.
Notify Central Supply of any items that will be needed that are not in the department.

- Postoperative Duties**
1. Relieve the scrub person for their break/lunch. Relief should be given in between cases.
 2. Help to turn over the rooms..
- Afternoon Duties**
1. Stock sterile supply room as needed.
 2. Help put away equipment.
 3. Help to relieve on-call personnel for a break before 3:30 PM.

Reference: 2004, AORN Standards and Practices